(c) the fresh initiative taken to enhance trade volumes between the BITMS-EC countries after their recently concluded fourth Ministerial meeting at Rangoon (Myanmar)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) No specific proposal has been received by the Ministry.

(c) Upgradation of port facilities and infrastructure at Calcutta port is a continuous process, which would also help enhancing trade volumes between BITMS-EC countries.

Patronage of SCI in crude import

417. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA': Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Shipping Corporation of India desires to have the patronage of public sector oil companies for carrying their crude imports;

(b) if so, the response of Government to this;

(c) whether the oil companies will not be denied advantage of competitive bidding if Government agree to it; and

(d) if so, the extent of loss of oil companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (d) The request of Shipping Corporation of India has been taken up with the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for a decision. The decision of that Ministry is awaited.

Rehabilitation of handicapped in Gujarat earthquake

418. SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of people were rendered handicapped as a result of Gujarat earthquake as reported in the news-item appeared in the Hindustan Times, dated the 26th January, 2002; and

(b) if so, the efforts made by Govenment to rehabilitate those handicapped by providing additional financial / material assistance?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYA NARAYAN JATIYA): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment extended all possible assistance under the welfare schemes being implemented by it to mitigate the hardships of those affected by the earthquake in Gujarat that took place on 26.1.2001. The rehabilitation package included provision of mobile medical units, setting up of shelters and relief camps, help line for children and the elderly, distribution of aids and appliances, assistance for re-construction and repair of institutional buildings and loaning for proposals relating to self employment and expansion of business through the apex corporations attached wtih the Ministry. Under the Schemes of Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase/Fitting of Aids and Appliances (ADIP) and Scheme to Promote Voluntary Action for Persons with Disablities, Non Governmental Organisations (NGOs) were released amounts of Rs. 155.92 lakhs and Rs. 92.56 lakhs respectively as grant-in-aid. Aids and appliances were distributed to 3537 persons. In addition, a sum of Rs. 2.04 crores was sanctioned to NGOs working in Gujarat for providing relief and rehabilitation services to the victims of the earthquake.

Drug addiction among students

419. SHRIMATI GURCHARAN KAUR: SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that drug addiction among students in schools and colleges and youth is growing;

(b) if so, the effective steps Government have taken or propose to take to control drug addiction;

(c) whether any guidelines have been issued to State Governments; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYA NARAYAN JATIYA): (a) to (d) At present, there is no system for collecting data in this regard. The Ministry is implementing a programme entitled "Scheme for Prevention of Alcoholism and Substance (Drugs) Abuse" wherein grant-in-aid is provided to the Non Government Organizations for providing preventive education, awareness services, motivational counselling, treatment